GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2227
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2007
ENCROACHMENT OF FOREST AREA
Madhwaraj Smt. Manorama

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Apex Court has been monitoring the cases of encroachment of forest areas and mismanagement by the State Governments by constituting a Central Empowered Committee;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has requested for reviewing the setting up of the Central Empowered Committee by the Apex Court and to revert back the powers to the States to constitute Forest Advisory Committees to look into such case; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (THIRU S. REGUPATHY)

(a) The Central Empowered Committee (CEC) has been constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court by order dated 09.05.2002 for the purpose of monitoring of implementation of Hon'ble Court's orders and to place the non-compliance cases before it, including in respect of encroachment removals, implementation of working plans, compensatory afforestation, plantation and other conservation issues.

(b) & (c) It has been constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court after considering the submission made by the Central Government through the Attorney General of India.